

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 12 and 13 are presently pending in this application.

In the outstanding Official Action, The disclosure and abstract were objected to as including informalities requiring correction. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 12 and 13 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,714,604 B1.

In response to the objection to the disclosure and the abstract, the specification and the abstract have been amended as recommended in the outstanding Official Action. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, the grounds for objection are believed to have been overcome.

In response to the obviousness-type double patenting rejection, it is noted that a duly executed Terminal Disclaimer was filed on March 15, 2005. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the outstanding double patenting rejection was issued in error and should be withdrawn.

Accordingly, there being no further outstanding issues, it is believed that this application is in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

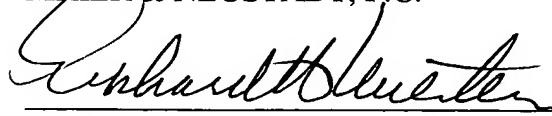
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